

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following is a complete, marked up listing of revised claims with a status identifier in parentheses, underlined text indicating insertions, and strikethrough and/or double-bracketed text indicating deletions.

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A prepaid licensing system, comprising:

a storage medium in a user machine, the storage medium including licensing information ~~for licensing-allowing~~ at least one use of software on the machine, the licensing information including unique and unchangeable information identifying the machine and information for measuring a number of uses of the software on the machine; and

a device in the machine, adapted to locally grant a license for the number of prepaid uses of the software on the machine based upon the information stored in the storage medium.
2. (Original) The prepaid licensing system of claim 1, wherein the device is further adapted to count a number of uses of the software on the machine.
3. (Currently Amended) The prepaid licensing system of claim 2, wherein the device is further adapted to prohibit ~~operation of~~ at least one of operation of the software and operation of the machine using the software upon the count reaching zero.
4. (Previously Presented) The prepaid licensing system of claim 1, wherein the device is further adapted to check validity of the software license during at least one of start-up and shut-down of the machine.

5. (Original) The prepaid licensing system of claim 1, wherein the device is further adapted to compare the unique and unchangeable information to stored information identifying the machine on which the software will be used.

6. (Currently Amended) The prepaid licensing system of claim 5, wherein the device is adapted to prohibit ~~operation of~~ at least one of operation of the software and operation of the machine using the software upon determining that the comparison does not match.

7. (Previously Presented) The prepaid licensing system of claim 3, wherein the device is further adapted to compare the unique and unchangeable information to stored information identifying the machine on which the software will be used.

8. (Currently Amended) The prepaid licensing system of claim 7, wherein the device is adapted to prohibit ~~operation of~~ at least one of operation of the software and operation of the machine using the software upon determining that the comparison does not match.

9. (Original) The prepaid licensing system of claim 1, wherein at least a portion of the information stored in the storage medium is encrypted.

10. (Original) The prepaid licensing system of claim 3, wherein at least a portion of the information stored on the storage medium is encrypted.

11. (Original) The prepaid licensing system of claim 8, wherein at least a portion of the

information stored on the storage medium is encrypted.

12. (Original) The prepaid licensing system of claim 1, wherein the machine is a medical device.

13. (Original) The prepaid licensing system of claim 3, wherein the machine is a medical device.

14. (Original) The prepaid licensing system of claim 8, wherein the machine is a medical device.

15. (Cancelled)

16. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable medium containing instructions executable on a computer for granting a license for a prepaid use of software, the computer readable medium[[,]] comprising:

a first code segment stored in a computer device of a user machine, the first code segment including information for licensing at least one use of software on the machine, the information including unique and unchangeable information identifying the machine, and information for measuring a number of uses of the machine; and

a second code segment stored in the computer device of the user machine, the second code segment being adapted to cause a computer device to locally grant a license for the number of prepaid uses of the software on the machine based upon the information stored in the storage medium.

17. (Original) The computer-readable medium of claim 16, wherein the second code segment is further adapted to cause the computer to count a number of uses of software on the machine.

18. (Currently Amended) The computer readable medium of claim 16, wherein the second code segment is further adapted to cause the computer to prohibit ~~operation of~~ at least one of operation of the software and operation of the machine using the software upon the count reaching zero.

19. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium of claim 16, wherein the second code segment is further adapted to cause the computer to check validity of the software license during at least one of start-up and shut-down of the machine.

20. (Original) The computer-readable medium of claim 16, wherein the second code segment is further adapted to cause the computer to compare the stored unique and unchangeable information to actual information identifying the machine on which the software will be used.

21. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable medium of claim 20, wherein the second code segment is further adapted to cause the computer to prohibit ~~operation of~~ at least one of operation of the software and operation of the machine using the software upon determining that the comparison does not match.

22. (Original) The computer-readable medium of claim 18, wherein the second code segment is further adapted to cause the computer to compare the stored unique and unchangeable information to actual information identifying the machine on which the software will be used.

23. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable medium of claim 22, wherein the second code segment is further adapted to cause the computer to prohibit ~~operation of~~ at least one of operation of the software and operation of the machine using the software upon determining that the comparison does not match.

24. (Original) The computer-readable medium of claim 16, wherein at least a portion of the information stored on the storage medium is encrypted.

25. (Original) The computer-readable medium of claim 18, wherein at least a portion of the information stored on the storage medium is encrypted.

26. (Original) The computer-readable medium of claim 23, wherein at least a portion of the information stored on the storage medium is encrypted.

27. (Original) The computer-readable medium of claim 16, wherein the machine is a medical device.

28. (Original) The computer-readable medium of claim 18, wherein the machine is a medical device.

29. (Original) The computer-readable medium of claim 23, wherein the machine is a medical device.

30. (Currently Amended) A prepaid licensing method, comprising:

storing licensing information on a user machine, ~~for licensing~~ the licensing information
including at least one prepaid use of software ~~on a user machine~~, ~~the information including~~ unique
and unchangeable information identifying the machine, and information for measuring a number of
uses of the software on the machine; and

locally granting a license for the number of prepaid uses of the software on the machine,
based upon the stored information.

31. (Original) The prepaid licensing method of claim 30, wherein the step of locally granting
the license includes counting a number of uses of the software on the machine.

32. (Currently Amended) The prepaid licensing method of claim 31, further comprising:

prohibiting ~~operation of~~ at least one of operation of the software and operation of the
machine using the software upon the count reaching zero.

33. (Previously Presented) The prepaid licensing method of claim 30, further comprising:

checking validity of the software license during at least one of start-up and shut-down of the
machine.

34. (Original) The prepaid licensing method of claim 30, wherein the step of locally granting
the license includes comparing the stored unique and unchangeable information to actual
information identifying the machine on which the software will be used.

35. (Currently Amended) The prepaid licensing method of claim 34, further comprising:

prohibiting ~~operation of~~ at least one of operation of the software and operation of the machine using the software upon determining that the comparison does not match.

36. (Original) The prepaid licensing method of claim 32, wherein the step of locally granting the license includes comparing the stored unique and unchangeable information to actual information identifying the machine on which the software will be used.

37. (Currently Amended) The prepaid licensing method of claim 36, further comprising:
prohibiting ~~operation of~~ at least one of operation of the software and operation of the machine using the software upon determining that the comparison does not match.

38. (Original) The prepaid licensing method of claim 30, wherein at least a portion of the stored information is encrypted.

39. (Original) The prepaid licensing method of claim 32, wherein at least a portion of the stored information is encrypted.

40. (Original) The prepaid licensing method of claim 37, wherein at least a portion of the stored information is encrypted.

41. (Original) The prepaid licensing method of claim 30, wherein the machine is a medical device.

42. (Original) The prepaid licensing method of claim 32, wherein the machine is a medical

device.

43. (Original) The prepaid licensing method of claim 38, wherein the machine is a medical device.

44. (Currently Amended) A method for granting a prepaid license on a machine, comprising:
examining licensing information on a designated machine, for the licensing information including information on a prepaid use of software on a designated machine, including a number of prepaid uses of the software and unique and unchangeable information identifying the designated machine;

comparing information identifying a machine to the unique and unchangeable information identifying the designated machine;

determining a number of uses of the software on the machine and comparing the number of uses to the number of prepaid uses; and

granting the license for use of the software on the machine for the number of prepaid uses remaining upon the information identifying the machine matching the unique and unchangeable information identifying the designated machine and upon the number of uses being determined to be less than the number of prepaid uses.

45. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 44, further comprising:

prohibiting ~~operation of~~ at least one of operation of the software and operation of the machine using the software upon the number of uses being determined to be at least equal to the number of prepaid uses.

46. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 45, further comprising:
examining validity of the software license during at least one of start-up and shut-down of
the machine.
47. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 45, further comprising:
prohibiting ~~operation of~~ at least one of operation of the software and operation of the
machine using the software upon determining that the comparison does not match.
48. (Original) The method of claim 45, wherein at least a portion of the information to be
examined is encrypted.
49. (Original) The method of claim 45, wherein at least a portion of the information to be
examined is stored and encrypted.
50. (Original) The method of claim 45, wherein the machine is a medical device.
51. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 45, further comprising:
determining a number of uses of the software remaining.
52. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 45, further comprising:
determining a number of uses of the software remaining and indicating the number of
remaining uses on the machine.
53. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 45, further comprising:

determining a number of uses of the software remaining and providing an indication on the machine upon determining that the number of remaining uses exceeds a threshold.

54. (Original) The method of claim 52, wherein the indication includes a visual indication.

55. (Original) The method of claim 52, wherein the indication includes an audible indication.

56. (Original) The method of claim 53, wherein the indication includes a visual indication.

57. (Original) The method of claim 53, wherein the indication includes an audible indication.

58. (Original) The method of claim 54, wherein the indication includes an audible indication.

59. (Original) The method of claim 56, wherein the indication includes an audible indication.

60. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for granting a prepaid license on a machine, comprising:

means for examining licensing information ~~for licensing~~ allowing a prepaid use of software on a designated machine, the licensing information including a number of prepaid uses and unique and unchangeable information identifying the designated machine;

means for comparing information identifying a machine to the unique and unchangeable information identifying the designated machine;

means for determining a number of uses of the software on the machine and comparing the number of uses to the number of prepaid uses; and

means for granting the license for use of the software on the machine for the number of prepaid uses remaining upon the information identifying the machine matching the unique and unchangeable information identifying the designated machine and upon the number of uses being determined to be less than the number of prepaid uses.

61. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 60, further comprising:

means for examining validity of the software license during at least one of start-up and shut-down of the machine.

62. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 60, further comprising:

means for prohibiting ~~operation of~~ at least one of operation of the software and operation of the machine using the software upon determining that the comparison does not match.

63. (Original) The apparatus of claim 60, wherein at least a portion of the information to be examined is encrypted.

64. (Original) The apparatus of claim 60, wherein at least a portion of the information to be examined is stored and encrypted.

65. (Original) The apparatus of claim 60, wherein the machine is a medical device.

66. (Original) The apparatus of claim 60, wherein the means for determining is further for determining a number of uses of the software remaining.

67. (Original) The apparatus of claim 60, wherein the means for determining is further for determining a number of uses of the software remaining, the apparatus further comprising means for indicating the number of remaining uses on the machine.

68. (Original) The apparatus of claim 60, wherein the means for determining is further for determining a number of uses of the software remaining, the apparatus further comprising means for providing an indication on the machine, upon determining that the number of remaining uses exceeds a threshold.

69. (Original) The apparatus of claim 67, wherein the indication includes a visual indication.

70. (Original) The apparatus of claim 68, wherein the indication includes a visual indication.

71. (Original) The apparatus of claim 67, wherein the indication includes an audible indication.

72. (Original) The apparatus of claim 68, wherein the indication includes an audible indication.

73. (Original) The apparatus of claim 69, wherein the indication includes an audible indication.

74. (Original) The apparatus of claim 70, wherein the indication includes an audible indication.

75. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 1, wherein the information on the storage medium is a software option.

76. (Original) The system of claim 75, wherein the storage medium stores both the software and the software option.
77. (Original) The computer readable medium of claim 16, wherein the information is a software option.
78. (Original) The method of claim 30, wherein the information is a software option.
79. (Original) The method of claim 78, wherein both the software and the software option are stored.
80. (Original) The method of claim 44, wherein the information is a software option.
81. (Original) The method of claim 80, wherein both the software and the software option are stored.
82. (Original) The apparatus of claim 60, wherein the information is a software option.
83. (Original) The apparatus of claim 78, wherein both the software and the software option are stored.
84. (Original) The method of claim 30, further comprising determining a number of uses of the software remaining.

85. (Original) The method of claim 30, further comprising determining a number of uses of the software remaining and indicating the number of remaining uses on the machine.

86. (Original) The method of claim 30, further comprising determining a number of uses of the software remaining and providing an indication on the machine upon determining that the number of remaining uses exceeds a threshold.

87. (Original) The method of claim 85, wherein the indication includes a visual indication.

88. (Original) The method of claim 85, wherein the indication includes an audible indication.

89. (Original) The method of claim 86, wherein the indication includes a visual indication.

90. (Original) The method of claim 86, wherein the indication includes an audible indication.

91.-102. (Cancelled)

103. (New) A computer readable medium for granting a prepaid license on a user machine, the computer readable medium having computer executable instructions stored thereon to configure the user machine to perform the steps comprising:

storing licensing information on a storage device in the user machine, the licensing information including at least one prepaid use of software on the user machine, the information being unique and unchangeable information identifying the machine, and information for measuring a number of uses of the software on the machine; and

locally granting a license for the number of prepaid uses of the software on the user machine, based upon the stored information.

104. (New) The computer readable medium of claim 103, further including instructions to configure the user machine to perform the steps including:

examining the stored licensing information to determine a number of prepaid uses and the unique and unchangeable information identifying the user machine;

comparing information identifying the user machine to the unique and unchangeable information stored on the storage device;

determining a remaining number of uses of the software on the user machine and comparing the remaining number of uses to the number of prepaid uses; and

granting a license for use of the software on the user machine for the number of prepaid uses remaining upon the information identifying the machine matching the unique and unchangeable information identifying the user machine and upon the number of uses being determined to be less than the number of prepaid uses.